Utah State Board of Education Resolution on School Attendance

WHEREAS, the Utah State Board of Education (USBE) believes that attendance is a critical element within the school system for the purpose of obtaining meaningful exposure to the core curriculum; and

WHEREAS, the USBE has adopted guidelines for school attendance; and

WHEREAS, district/school attendance policies are to be reviewed annually, and

WHEREAS, the USBE believes that an opportunity lost due to an absence cannot be <u>fully</u> secured through other means; and

WHEREAS, the USBE believes that individual student learning and achievement is directly related to attendance; and

WHEREAS, the USBE believes that the development of student attendance habits will directly affect workplace attendance and reliability; and

WHEREAS, the USBE recognizes that schools, parents and communities must work as informed, knowledgeable, and proactive partners; and

WHEREAS, expectations and consequences of school absence will be effectively shared with parents, students, and communities, and

WHEREAS, the USBE supports annual review of attendance policies by school districts and schools to insure consistency and student achievement, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that districts and schools should champion individual student success by having clearly defined attendance policies that maximize student achievement and mastery of core curriculum standards.

RESOLVED, that the Utah State Board of Education and local boards prepare and administer a campaign to heighten awareness of absenteeism including consequences and attendance expectations.

RESOLVED, that districts and schools encourage and empower teachers to adopt attendance as part of classroom-level grading policies where appropriate.